

IRTHLINGBOROUGH URBAN  
DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1949



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Together with the Report of

E. TURNBULL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.





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# Irthlingborough Urban District.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1949.

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |         |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area (acres)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,910   |
| Population 1921 (census)                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,911   |
| „ 1931 (census)                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,621   |
| „ 1949  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,967   |
| Number of separate dwellings occupied 1921 (census) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,002   |
| „ „ „ „ „ 1931 (census)                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,208   |
| „ „ „ „ „ 1949                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,588   |
| Rateable value, 1949                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £22,300 |
| Product of a penny rate, 1949                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £84     |

| <b>Live Births.</b> |     |     |     |     | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Legitimate          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80           | 37          | 43            |             |
| Illegitimate        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3            | 2           | 1             |             |
|                     |     |     |     |     | 83           | 39          | 44            | 16.71       |

| <b>Stillbirths.</b> |     |     |     |     | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Legitimate          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1            | 1           | —             |             |
| Illegitimate        | ... | ... | ... | ... | —            | —           | —             |             |
|                     |     |     |     |     | 1            | 1           | —             | 0.20        |

|                            |     |     |     |     | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Deaths (all causes)</b> | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75           | 39          | 36            | 15.09       |

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

|                                    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil. |
| Other puerperal causes             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil. |

| <b>Infant Mortality</b> —rate per 1,000 live births. |     |     |     |     | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Legitimate   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4            | 2           | 2             |             |
| Illegitimate   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —            | —           | —             | nil.        |
|  |     |     |     |     | 4            | 2           | 2             | 48.19       |

|                                      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| <b>Deaths from Cancer (All ages)</b> | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11   |
| „ „ Measles (All ages)               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil. |
| „ „ Whooping Cough (All ages)        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil. |
| „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil. |

# Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

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## *Members of the Public Health Committee :*

MESSRS. J. W. CROUCH (Chairman), P. R. DUNCAN, J.P. (Chairman of the Council), H. D. BUGBY, C. E. GRIMMER, G. F. KNIGHT and MRS. B. I. NEVILLE.

## *Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :*

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

## *also holds appointments of*

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District Council.

Assistant School Medical Officer.

Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector, Surveyor, etc.,

EDWARD TURNBULL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

*Certified Sanitary Inspector.*

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
SWANSPOOL,  
WELLINGBOROUGH.  
*July, 1950.*

**To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District Council of  
Irthlingborough.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Some interesting information may be gathered from the vital statistics for the year and comments on these figures will be found throughout the report. The birth rate (16.71) shows a fall on the figure for the preceding year (21.71), but then this rate was the highest recorded since 1913.

The death rate (15.09), as will be seen from Table No. 2, page 20, was the highest recorded. As this calls for some comment I have given the age incidence of these deaths and it will be seen that the majority of deaths occurred in the age groups 65 years to 75 years and 75 years upwards. The death rate for England and Wales for the same year was 11.7.

Last year no infant deaths were recorded, but for 1949 four deaths occurred which gives a rate of 48.19 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales was 32.

The incidence of infectious diseases for the period remained low and this is the eleventh year since a case of diphtheria was notified in the area.

Five new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified as compared with six cases for the previous year. At the end of the year there were 51 names on the Tuberculosis register. Satisfactory housing conditions, abatement of overcrowding, improvement in factory hygiene, protection of the population by early diagnoses and sanatorium treatment for cases, are the main methods for combating this disease.

This leads us to consider the housing situation in the area. At the end of the year there were 155 applicants for council houses, which is an increase of 55 on the previous year. From the Section on Housing it will be seen that a considerable number of families are living in houses that have been condemned and are scheduled for clearance at some future date. The re-housing of these families will also have to be considered. From this it will be seen that there still remains a great demand for more houses in the district.



In conclusion I should like to express my appreciation of the assistance I have received from Mr. Turnbull, the Sanitary Inspector, in compiling this report and also the assistance I have received from Mr. Wilson, the Clerk to the Council, during the year. I also appreciate very much the help and assistance I have received from Members of the Health Committee throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

**Area**—The area of the district consists of 2,910 acres.

**Population**—In the Registrar-General’s return for the year 1949 the population for Irthlingborough is given as 4,967. This shows an increase of 270 on the figures for 1948 which was given as 4,697. The excess of births over deaths for the year was 8.

**Deaths**—After the necessary adjustments for inward and outward transferable deaths in the District the Registrar-General has assigned 75 deaths for the period. This shows an increase of 20 deaths over the number for 1948, which was 55.

This gives a death rate of 15.09 per thousand of the estimated population and is the highest rate recorded for a considerable number of years. The rate for 1948 was 11.70.

On account of the rather large number of deaths that occurred during 1949 as compared with other years, the following shows the age incidence of these deaths :

|              |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |         |
|--------------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| <i>under</i> | 1-2  | 2-5  | 5-15 | 15-25 | 25-45 | 45-65 | 65-75 | 75 yrs. |
| 1yr.         | yrs. | yrs. | yrs. | yrs.  | yrs.  | yrs.  | yrs.  | & over  |
| 4            | 2    | nil  | nil  | 1     | 2     | 9     | 21    | 36      |

From this it will be seen that the greatest number of deaths occurred in the age group 75 yrs. and upwards and this, plus the 65-75 yrs. group, accounted for 57 deaths out of a total of 75.

Of the four infant deaths three were due to malformations or prematurity and one to pneumonia.

One of the deaths between the ages 1-2 yrs. was due to a congenital defect and the second to pneumonia.

The following table gives the death rates for the district and for the Administrative County and England and Wales for the period 1945 to 1949.

Death Rates, 1945-49.

| <i>Irthlingborough</i> |              |             |               |                      | <i>Administrative County      England &amp; Wales</i> |      |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|---|------|
| <i>Year</i>            | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Recorded Rate</i> | <i>Recorded Rate</i>                                  |      |
| 1945                   | 59           | 29          | 30            | 13.3                 | 12.34   | 11.4 |
| 1946                   | 51           | 23          | 28            | 10.85                | 12.00   | 11.5 |
| 1947                   | 59           | 26          | 33            | 12.26                | 12.43   | 12.0 |
| 1948                   | 55           | 29          | 26            | 11.7                 | 11.00   | 10.8 |
| 1949                   | 75           | 39          | 36            | 15.09                | —   | 11.7 |



Table No. 1, page 19 gives a list of the causes of death classified in accordance with the International List of Causes of Death 1938.

**Births**—83 births were assigned to the district for 1949 as compared with 102 births in 1948. This gives a rate of 16.71 per thousand of population. The rate for 1948 was 21.71. For comparison the rate for England and Wales for 1949 was 16.7.

Table No. 2, page 20 gives further information with regard to the trend of the birth rate and other vital statistics covering the forty-eight years.

**Stillbirths**—One stillbirth was recorded during the year. This gives a rate of 0.20 per thousand of the estimated population. The rate for England and Wales for 1949 was 0.39. One stillbirth was also recorded in 1948.

**Maternal Mortality**—No deaths were recorded under this heading.

**Infant Mortality Rate**—During the year four infants died before attaining their first birthday. This gives a rate of 48.19 per 1,000 live births. The causes of these deaths were as follows : Premature birth (1) ; Congenital Malformations (2) ; Pneumonia (1). A comparison between the rates for Irthlingborough, the Administrative County and England and Wales over a period of five years is as follows :

|                       | 1945      | 1946      | 1947      | 1948        | 1949  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------|
| Irthlingborough ...   | 54.05(4)* | 25.31(2)* | 23.52(2)* | <i>nil.</i> | 48.19 |
| Administrative County | 39.17     | 19.17     | 20.42     | 31.67       | —     |
| England and Wales ... | 46.00     | 43.00     | 41.00     | 34.00       | 32.00 |

\* *Number of Deaths.*

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

**Laboratory Facilities**—Facilities for the bacteriological examination of specimens are afforded by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at the General Hospital, Northampton, which comes under Dr. Hoyle. Water samples for bacteriological examinations are also sent here.

Assistance in the examination of specimens from cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning in the district by this Laboratory is much appreciated.

The Chemical Research Association in London carries out the chemical analysis of samples of drinking water on request. Chemical analysis of sewage effluent is carried out by Messrs. Rideal, Rideal and Sciver, of London.

The County Council's Laboratory at Northampton examines milk samples for the district.

**Diphtheria Antitoxin**—A supply of antitoxin is kept at the Public Health Department, Swanspool, Wellingborough, and is available on request to the Medical Practitioners in the district.

**Ambulance Service**—The St. John Ambulance Brigade carried patients from the District to hospital as requested. Arrangements are made by the County Council with the Brigade for the transfer of patients from hospital to their homes. In 1949, 64 cases were removed to hospital and the number of miles covered by the district ambulance was 1,692 miles. The following table shows the number of cases removed and mileage covered over the last five years.

|          |     |     | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 |
|----------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| Journeys | ... | ... | 76   | 60   | 66   | 52   | 64   |
| Mileage  | ... | ... | 2055 | 1563 | 1862 | 1618 | 1692 |

**Infectious Diseases**—Cases requiring hospitalisation are removed by arrangements with the Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton, in their Ambulance.

**Nursing in the Home**—One Queen's Nurse, who is State Registered and holds the certificate of the Central Midwives Board, is employed by the Irthlingborough Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Northamptonshire Nursing Association. Details of work carried out by her during the year are as follows :

| <i>Cases Nursed</i> |              |              |                    |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
| General 150         | Midwifery 14 | Maternity 41 | Total Visits 2,591 |

**Treatment Centres and Clinics**—Child Welfare Centre is held at the Church School on 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, and is run by the County Council.

Orthopaedic cases attend the Manfield Orthopaedic Clinic at Rushden on alternate Fridays.

Arrangements for the setting up of an Ante-natal Clinic to be held at Irthlingborough were made during the year. This Clinic is now held on the 4th Friday of each month at St. Peter's School, from 9.45 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases**—Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious diseases, when required, is provided by the Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton.



## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

**Water Supply**—Although full details concerning the District's water supply was given in last year's Annual Report, as these details have been requested again for inclusion in this year's report they once again are included.

**Source**—Shallow wells sunk in the Nene Valley gravels near Station Road. There are four wells, and the principal or Town Well is 15' 6" deep with a 6' diameter. Adits amounting to 200 yards of a 9" feeder drain augment the supply of water to this well. The yield from this well is some 156,000 gallons per day. Two additional wells 17' and 18' in depth and 10' in diameter are used to augment the supply in the Town Well. The combined yield of these two wells is 72,000 gallons per day. The fourth well, 14.46' deep and 3' in diameter supplies water for trade purposes direct to the Midland Co-operative Laundry. This well yields some 72,000 gallons per day.

Pumping from the Town Well is carried out by two gas engines, each of 28 h.p. These engines can be operated together or independently. Pumping can be carried out at the rate of 10,000 gallons per hour. The two auxiliary wells which feed the principal well, when required, are provided with 4 h.p. diesel oil engines which are capable of delivering 3,000 gallons per hour.

**Treatment**—Water for domestic consumption is filtered under pressure through three 8' diameter cylindrical sand filters, which are capable of dealing with 100 gallons per square foot per hour. The water is treated with sulphate of Alumina at the rate of  $\frac{3}{4}$  grain per gallon, then treated with chlorine by means of Paterson Gravity Chloronome. De-chlorination is then carried out by means of passage through activated carbon.

The water for the Town is pumped to a service reservoir which is constructed of mass concrete and lined with engineering bricks and bitumen. It has a concrete roof and is covered to a depth of about 1' with earth. It has a capacity of 689,000 gallons. Daily consumption per head of the population during the period was 28.3 gallons, and for trade purposes 25 gallons. From this it will be seen that Irthlingborough has a very high demand for water for trade purposes.

The year's consumption was 96,220,000 gallons, of which 51,094,000 gallons were for domestic consumption and 45,126,000 gallons for trade purposes. Last year the total consumption was 86,614,000 gallons, of

which 48,930,000 gallons were for domestic use and 37,684,000 gallons for trade purposes. From these figures it will be seen that the town's demand for water is increasing and that trade demands are increasing at an even greater rate than domestic demands.

During the year 37 samples of water drawn from the various wells and from the public supply sources have been examined. Eleven were taken after chlorination and filtration and the bacteriological results of these were all "very satisfactory", the water being within Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped water supplies. The bacterial counts in the raw water have been, on a number of occasions, suspicious, and on one occasion there was evidence of very slight faecal pollution in a sample drawn from one of the small subsidiary tube wells. It has been noted that following flooding of the River Nene that wells in the river gravels show an increase in bacterial counts in samples taken, and although it is thought that these gravel wells tap water flowing towards the river or parallel to it, that on such occasions the reverse may take place or surface pollution may affect the subsoil water and may be the cause of the pollution.

The number of houses having a piped water supply is 1,221, while 360 houses are dependent upon standpipes. Seven houses in the area are without access to a piped water supply.

Statutory notices calling for piped water supplies to be laid into a further 109 houses have been served under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945. The work has been carried out in 90 houses (15 of which were in respect of notices outstanding from the previous year), and at the end of the year 34 notices were still to be complied with. Piped water supplies have been provided in two houses previously supplied with water from shallow wells.

**Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**—With the exception of some outlying farms the remainder of houses and factories in the district have a water carriage system and are connected to the town sewers. Reconstruction of electric pumping stations was carried out during the year and should be completed by the middle of 1950. Meanwhile, the old pumping station at the works is in operation. The following is a brief summary of the treatment which takes place at the sewage works :

Sewage enters collecting tanks—from this it is pumped to Detritus tanks—from this to Pyramidal continuous flow settlement tanks—then by gravitation to six circular primary filter beds, effluent from these beds collected in a humus tank—and from this tank is led to a further three (secondary) circular filter beds, effluent from these collected in humus tank from which outfall from sewage works passes on into the River Nene.



A number of samples of final effluent from these disposal works were taken during the year. The results of these samples showed some variation, and the following is a summary of these results : “ The final effluent from these works show some evidence of purification, but would not be regarded as altogether satisfactory as it contains too much suspended matter, and the biological oxygen demand is rather high. The high chloride figure is suggestive of some trade waste, though no poisonous metals were found ”.

The disposal of sludge continues to be a difficult problem.

No new sewers were laid in 1949.

**Disinfection**—Concurrent and terminal disinfection was carried out with liquid and gaseous disinfectants when required.

Articles for steam disinfection have to be brought to Rushden (by arrangement) as no steam disinfectors are maintained by the District.

**Movable Dwellings, Public Health Act, 1936, S. 269**—No licences were applied for. Successful informal action was taken for the removal of caravans from two unlicensed sites.

**Public Cleansing**—House refuse is removed by a 50 cwt. Bedford motor lorry to a tip adjacent to Ditchford Road and about 2 miles from the centre of the town. The number of loads of refuse collected was 774.

The motor lorry is a new one with all steel body and sliding steel covers, and was purchased during the year.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs**—Two houses were successfully treated. D.D.T. smoke generators were used for the purpose with satisfactory results.

**Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919—Infestation Order, 1943**—Maintenance treatment for the destruction of rats was carried out at the following sites :

Town sewers, sewage works, refuse tip and highways depot.

Also a block of shops received attention on request from the owners.



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

Sixty houses were completed in 1949, work on these houses having commenced during the previous year. 35 of these houses were of traditional type, and 25 permanent pre-fabricated houses. At the end of the year two private houses were in the course of construction.

155 names were on the waiting list for houses at the end of the year and this shows an increase of 55 on the number at the end of the previous year. Considering that 39 traditional type houses, 71 permanent pre-fabricated houses and two private houses were built in 1948, and a further 60 houses in 1949, and still the number of persons on the waiting list for houses grows, some extent of the housing problem will be realised.

**Slum Clearance**—Clearance Order No. 7. Six dwelling houses, numbers 25, 27/29, 31, 33, 35 and 37 Gosham Road.

Clearance Order No. 10. Six dwelling houses numbered 72, 74, 76, 78, 80 and 82, High Street West.

A Public Enquiry into an application by the Council for the Confirmation of these Orders was held at the Council Offices on 4th January, 1949, and the Orders were subsequently confirmed, the property being demolished and the sites cleared during the year under review.

The areas were two of twelve areas comprising a total of 81 houses which were the subject of a Public Enquiry in July, 1939, and on which the Minister of Health decided in consequence of the outbreak of war to defer his decision on the application for confirmation of the Order for Clearance.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there still exists in the district a great demand for more houses, and that at our present rate of progress, even though the number of houses built in 1948 and 1949 should give rise to a certain amount of satisfaction, it will still be a considerable number of years before the problem can be satisfactorily solved, and so every effort should be made to keep up the figures of the last two years.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**Milk Supply**—Milk samples taken from dairy premises and during the course of delivery to consumers have been submitted to the County Laboratory for examination as to cleanliness and keeping quality. The samples submitted to the Methylene Blue Test gave results as follows :

|          |     |     |     |     |    |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Good     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Moderate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Bad      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
|          |     |     |     |     | 36 |
| Total    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36 |

Seven samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Phosphatase Test and all were satisfactory, being in Grade 1, i.e., the result given by milk heated to conform with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

**Livestock**—Meat inspection for the District is carried out at the Rushden Co-operative Society's Slaughterhouse which is controlled by the Ministry of Food. No meat inspection is carried out locally.

Details of unfit food voluntarily surrendered is given in Table No. 4, page 22. There were no seizures of unfit food during the year.

**Food Inspection—Ice Cream**—19 samples of ice cream obtained from retailers were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. The results were as follows :

|           |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Grade I   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| Grade II  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| Grade III | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Grade IV  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
|           |     |     |     |     |     | 19 |
| Total     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |

From this it will be seen that the greater number of samples fell into Grades III and IV, which is unsatisfactory. It must be taken into consideration though, that during the period that the majority of these samples were taken the weather was abnormally warm. Also the fact that the container in which samples are sent to Northampton has no facilities for ice and so temperature at which samples travelled were found to be above a desirable temperature.

**Formation of a Northamptonshire Clean Food Guild**—During the year steps were taken to set up in the County a Northamptonshire Clean Food Guild. The first step consisted of a meeting of Medical Officers and Sanitary Inspectors held at County Hall, Northampton. At this meeting it was felt that there existed in the County a need for such a Guild. A sub-committee was formed to draw up a proposed constitution of a committee for such a Guild, and rules and regulations with codes of practice. The codes of practice for the different trades to be based on the Model Bye-laws. This was done, and Officials reported back to their Authorities, and a further meeting was held at which Councillors from the various Districts and Boroughs were present. At this meeting it was decided to form such a Guild and the proposals as submitted by the sub-committee were adopted in principle.

As this is the first step in a movement for a higher standard of hygiene in connection with the production and handling of food stuffs in the different areas, it undoubtedly is a move in the right direction, and it is to be hoped that the Guild will be successful.

In recent years outbreaks of food poisoning have been on the increase and the formation of such a Guild, with the holding of courses of instruction for food handlers, should do much to stem such outbreaks.



## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

**Smallpox**—No cases occurred in the District.

**Scarlet Fever**—Three cases notified during the period. No cases occurred in 1948.

**Diphtheria**—No cases occurred during the period. It is now eleven years since a case of Diphtheria was notified in the District.

#### Immunisation in Relation to Child Population.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1949

| Age at<br>31:12:49<br><i>i.e.</i> Born in<br>Year ... | <i>Under</i><br>1<br>1948 | 1<br>1947 | 2<br>1946 | 3<br>1945 | 4<br>1944 | 5 to 9<br>1939-1943 | 10 to 14<br>1934-1938 | <i>Total</i><br><i>under 15</i> |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Number<br>Immunised                                   | —                         | 57        | 61        | 44        | 44        | 223                 | 326                   | 755                             |
| Estimated<br>mid-year<br>population<br>1949           | 415                       |           |           |           |           | 649                 |                       | 1064                            |

The above statistics do not take into account children immunised by private arrangement. During the year 75 children under 5 years of age were immunised.

**Measles**—8 cases occurred in the District during the year. In 1948 124 cases were notified.

**Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**—18 cases were notified. Last year 2 cases occurred in the area.

**Erysipelas**—No cases were notified.

**Pneumonia**—6 cases of Pneumonia were notified as against one case in the previous year. Eight deaths were ascribed to Pneumonia as the primary cause of death.

**Influenza**—No notifications were received.

**Poliomyelitis**—No cases were notified and the area has been free from this disease for a period of over five and a half years. Tables Nos. 5 and 6, page 23 give details of the age groupings and monthly incidence for the infectious diseases.

**Tuberculosis**—Five new cases were notified. Four males and one female, all were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Last year six cases occurred in the area.

One death occurred in the period under review in a female patient with a pulmonary infection. Last year two deaths occurred.

At the end of the year there were 51 cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the area. Of these cases 44 were of Pulmonary infections (29 males, 15 females), and 7 were non-pulmonary (5 males and 2 females). The age grouping and sex incidence for new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis are given in Table No. 7, page 24.

3 people from the area were admitted to Rushden House Sanatorium and 3 were discharged during the year.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## SECTION G.

### THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The provision as to Sanitary Conveniences, in the case of all factories, are, on the whole, satisfactorily maintained. In those factories where mechanical power is not used provisions as to—cleanliness, number employed, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors—there was no case for serious complaint. There was no action necessary in respect of homework (Sections 110 and 111). Form 572 (Revised) has been abridged and is given as Table No. 3, page 21.



## SECTION H.

### STATISTICAL TABLES, 1949.

TABLE No. 1.

#### CAUSES OF DEATH.

| <i>Causes of Death.</i> |   |     |     |     |     | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.                      | Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 2.                      | Cerebro-spinal fever  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 3.                      | Scarlet fever   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 4.                      | Whooping cough  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 5.                      | Diphtheria  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 6.                      | Tuberculosis of respiratory system                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | 1             | 1            |
| 7.                      | Other forms of tuberculosis                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 8.                      | Syphilitic diseases   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 9.                      | Influenza   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 10.                     | Measles   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 11.                     | Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 12.                     | Acute infective encephalitis                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 13.                     | Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M)                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
|                         | uterus (F)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 14.                     | Cancer of stomach and duodenum                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | 2             | 2            |
| 15.                     | Cancer of breast  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | 2             | 2            |
| 16.                     | Cancer of all other sites                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5           | 2             | 7            |
| 17.                     | Diabetes  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | 1             | 1            |
| 18.                     | Intra-cranial vascular lesions                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4           | 3             | 7            |
| 19.                     | Heart disease   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11          | 14            | 25           |
| 20.                     | Other diseases of circulatory system                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | —             | 1            |
| 21.                     | Bronchitis  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2           | 1             | 3            |
| 22.                     | Pneumonia   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6           | 2             | 8            |
| 23.                     | Other respiratory diseases                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | —             | 1            |
| 24.                     | Ulcer of stomach or duodenum                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 25.                     | Diarrhoea under 2 years                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 26.                     | Appendicitis  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 27.                     | Other digestive diseases                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2           | 3             | 5            |
| 28.                     | Nephritis   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | —             | 1            |
| 29.                     | Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 30.                     | Other maternal causes   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 31.                     | Premature birth   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | —             | 1            |
| 32.                     | Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | 1             | 2            |
| 33.                     | Suicide   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 34.                     | Road traffic accidents  | ... | ... | ... | ... | —           | —             | —            |
| 35.                     | Other violent causes  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           | —             | 1            |
| 36.                     | All other causes  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3           | 4             | 7            |
| ALL CAUSES              |   |     |     |     |     | 39          | 36            | 75           |

TABLE NO. 2

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1949 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

| Year | Estimated<br>Population | Births |       | Deaths              |                |                 |                  |
|------|-------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
|      |                         | No.    | Rate  | Under 1 year<br>No. | 1 year<br>Rate | All Ages<br>No. | All Ages<br>Rate |
| 1891 | 2,998                   | —      | —     | —                   | —              | —               | —                |
| 1901 | 4,340                   | —      | —     | —                   | —              | —               | —                |
| 1902 | 5,526                   | 158    | 34.9  | 21                  | 132.9          | 60              | 13.2             |
| 1903 | 4,728                   | 152    | 32.1  | 23                  | 151.3          | 63              | 13.3             |
| 1904 | 4,664                   | 137    | 29.3  | 11                  | 80.2           | 56              | 12.0             |
| 1905 | 4,664                   | 150    | 32.1  | 14                  | 93.3           | 55              | 11.7             |
| 1906 | 4,566                   | 127    | 27.8  | 13                  | 102.3          | 53              | 11.6             |
| 1907 | 4,600                   | 111    | 24.1  | 13                  | 117.1          | 57              | 12.3             |
| 1908 | 4,670                   | 122    | 26.1  | 9                   | 73.7           | 45              | 9.6              |
| 1909 | 4,750                   | 98     | 20.6  | 8                   | 81.6           | 44              | 9.2              |
| 1910 | 4,800                   | 120    | 25.0  | 6                   | 50.0           | 49              | 10.2             |
| 1911 | 4,630                   | 124    | 26.7  | 17                  | 137.0          | 56              | 12.0             |
| 1912 | 4,650                   | 89     | 19.1  | 16                  | 112.3          | 55              | 11.8             |
| 1913 | 4,675                   | 108    | 23.1  | 5                   | 46.2           | 39              | 8.3              |
| 1914 | 4,725                   | 92     | 19.4  | 8                   | 86.9           | 52              | 11.0             |
| 1915 | 4,790                   | 95     | 20.1  | 15                  | 157.8          | 60              | 12.5             |
| 1916 | 4,665                   | 98     | 19.3  | 3                   | 30.6           | 42              | 8.7              |
| 1917 | 4,445                   | 56     | 11.2  | 6                   | 107.1          | 50              | 11.2             |
| 1918 | 4,667                   | 65     | 12.4  | 9                   | 138.4          | 61              | 13.0             |
| 1919 | 5,011                   | 73     | 13.9  | 6                   | 82.1           | 50              | 9.9              |
| 1920 | 5,211                   | 109    | 20.9  | 4                   | 36.6           | 49              | 7.8              |
| 1921 | 4,911                   | 90     | 18.3  | 6                   | 66.6           | 47              | 9.5              |
| 1922 | 4,970                   | 88     | 17.7  | 4                   | 45.4           | 44              | 8.8              |
| 1923 | 4,956                   | 69     | 13.9  | 6                   | 86.9           | 50              | 10.0             |
| 1924 | 5,001                   | 75     | 14.9  | 2                   | 26.6           | 46              | 9.1              |
| 1925 | 4,946                   | 77     | 15.5  | 5                   | 64.9           | 57              | 11.5             |
| 1926 | 4,983                   | 68     | 13.6  | 3                   | 44.1           | 42              | 8.4              |
| 1927 | 4,934                   | 79     | 16.0  | 3                   | 37.8           | 57              | 11.5             |
| 1928 | 4,906                   | 77     | 15.6  | 4                   | 51.9           | 49              | 9.9              |
| 1929 | 4,934                   | 74     | 14.9  | 4                   | 54.0           | 55              | 11.1             |
| 1930 | 4,839                   | 57     | 11.7  | 3                   | 52.5           | 68              | 14.5             |
| 1931 | 4,715                   | 64     | 13.5  | 4                   | 62.8           | 50              | 10.6             |
| 1932 | 4,696                   | 52     | 11.0  | 2                   | 38.4           | 48              | 10.2             |
| 1933 | 4,679                   | 63     | 13.4  | 1                   | 15.8           | 61              | 13.0             |
| 1934 | 4,640                   | 52     | 11.2  | 4                   | 76.9           | 57              | 12.2             |
| 1935 | 4,547                   | 55     | 12.0  | 3                   | 56.3           | 46              | 10.1             |
| 1936 | 4,485                   | 56     | 12.4  | 5                   | 89.4           | 49              | 10.9             |
| 1937 | 4,484                   | 67     | 14.9  | 2                   | 29.8           | 54              | 12.0             |
| 1938 | 4,500                   | 58     | 12.8  | 3                   | 51.7           | 55              | 12.2             |
| 1939 | ‡ 4,542                 |        |       |                     |                |                 |                  |
|      | † 4,663                 | 70     | 15.4  | 3                   | 42.8           | 49              | 10.5             |
| 1940 | 5,027                   | 57     | 11.3  | 4                   | 70.2           | 55              | 10.9             |
| 1941 | 5,237                   | 69     | 13.2  | 6                   | 86.9           | 61              | 11.6             |
| 1942 | 4,749                   | 90     | 18.9  | 2                   | 22.2           | 55              | 11.5             |
| 1943 | 4,535                   | 86     | 14.8  | 2                   | 23.2           | 60              | 13.2             |
| 1944 | 4,568                   | 72     | 15.8  | 2                   | 27.8           | 62              | 13.6             |
| 1945 | 4,427                   | 74     | 16.7  | 4                   | 54.1           | 59              | 13.3             |
| 1946 | 4,700                   | 79     | 16.8  | 2                   | 25.31          | 51              | 10.85            |
| 1947 | 4,812                   | 85     | 17.64 | 2                   | 23.52          | 59              | 12.26            |
| 1948 | 4,697                   | 102    | 21.71 | Nil.                | —              | 55              | 11.70            |
| 1949 | 4,967                   | 83     | 16.71 | 4                   | 48.19          | 75              | 15.09            |

‡ Population for calculation of Birth-rate.

† Population for calculation of Death-rate.

TABLE No. 3.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1948,  
for the year, 1949

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

| <i>Premises</i>  | <i>Number<br/>on<br/>Register</i> | <i>Number of</i>   |                            |                                 |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  |                                   | <i>Inspections</i> | <i>Written<br/>notices</i> | <i>Occupiers<br/>prosecuted</i> |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4<br>and 6 are to be enforced by Local<br>Authorities ... ..                    | 4                                 | 5                  | —                          | —                               |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which<br>Section 7 is enforced by the Local<br>Authority ... ..                    | 30                                | 15                 | —                          | —                               |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is<br>enforced by the Local Authority (ex-<br>cluding out-workers' premises) ... | —                                 | —                  | —                          | —                               |
| TOTAL ...  | 34                                | 20                 | —                          | —                               |

2.—Cases in which **defects** were found

| <i>Particulars</i>                 | <i>Number of cases in which defects<br/>were found</i> |                 |   |                              | <i>Number of<br/>cases in<br/>which pro-<br/>secutions<br/>were<br/>instituted</i> |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|---|------------------------------|--|
|                                    | <i>Found</i>   | <i>Remedied</i> | <i>Referred<br/>To H.M.<br/>Inspector</i> | <i>By H.M.<br/>Inspector</i> |  |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :      |  |                 |   |                              |  |
| (a) insufficient ... ..            | —  | —               | —   | —                            | —  |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ... .. | 1  | 1               | —   | —                            | —  |
| (c) Not separate for sexes ... ..  | —  | —               | —   | —                            | —  |
| TOTAL ... ..                       | 1  | 1               | —   | —                            | —  |

PART VIII OF THE ACT

**Outwork** (Sections 110 and 111)

| <i>Nature of Work</i>                | <i>Section 110</i>   |  |  | <i>Section 111</i>  |                           |                           |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                      | <i>No. of<br/>out-workers<br/>in August<br/>list required<br/>by Sect.<br/>110 (1) (c)</i> | <i>No. of<br/>cases of<br/>default<br/>in sending<br/>lists to the<br/>Council</i> | <i>No. of<br/>prosecu-<br/>tions for<br/>failure to<br/>supply lists</i> | <i>No. of<br/>instances<br/>of work in<br/>unwhole-<br/>some<br/>premises</i> | <i>Notices<br/>served</i> | <i>Prosecu-<br/>tions</i> |
| Wearing Apparel—<br>Making, etc. ... | 49   | —  | —  | —   | —                         | —                         |
| Cleaning and<br>washing ...          | —  | —  | —  | —   | —                         | —                         |
| Basket Making ...                    | —  | —  | —  | —   | —                         | —                         |
| TOTAL ...                            | 49   | —  | —  | —   | —                         | —                         |



TABLE No. 4.

**SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTIONS, Etc., MADE BY THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

**Factories Act, 1937—**

|   |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| List of Outworkers                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| Inspection of Sanitary Conveniences, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Informal notices served and complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |

**Food and Drugs Act, 1938—**

|  |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Slaughterhouses Licenced                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4     |
| Premises registered for sale of ice-cream— |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| As at 1st January                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7     |
| During year                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7     |
|  |     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> |
| Total registrations                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14    |

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933—**

|                       |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Licenced Slaughtermen | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

**Milk Acts—**

|   |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1937 Supplementary |     |     |     |     |     |   |
| Licences issued                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

**Public Health Act, 1936—**

|   |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Verminous premises disinfested                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Drainage defects repaired                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
| Sec. 47, W.C. Conversions—grants in aid of          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Cleansing of cesspits, cleansing on informal action | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Housing repairs—informal action                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |

**Unsound Food surrendered—**

|                      |     |     |     |     |     |         |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Cheese               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 lbs.  |
| Canned foods—various | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32 lbs. |
| Fish                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 lbs. |
| Bacon and ham        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 lbs. |

|  |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| <b>Smoke nuisance, informal action</b> | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

TABLE NO. 5.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1949.

| <i>Disease</i>     | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTAL |
|--------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| Smallpox ...       | —       | —        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | —     |
| Scarlet Fever ...  | —       | 1        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | 2        | 3     |
| Pneumonia ...      | 1       | —        | 2     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | 2         | —       | 1        | —        | 6     |
| Measles ...        | —       | —        | 7     | 1     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | 8     |
| Whooping Cough     | 1       | —        | 1     | 2     | —   | —    | 1    | —      | 8         | 1       | 1        | 3        | 18    |
| Erysipelas ...     | —       | —        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | —     |
| Influenza ...      | —       | —        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | —     |
| Diphtheria ...     | —       | —        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | —     |
| Polio myelitis ... | —       | —        | —     | —     | —   | —    | —    | —      | —         | —       | —        | —        | —     |
| TOTALS ...         | 2       | 1        | 10    | 3     | —   | —    | 1    | —      | 10        | 1       | 2        | 5        | 35    |

TABLE NO. 6.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1949.

| <i>Disease</i>     | —1 | —2 | —3 | —4 | —5 | —10 | —15 | —20 | —35 | —45 | —65 | 65+ | All Ages | Removed<br>to Hospital | Deaths |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|------------------------|--------|
| Scarlet Fever ...  | —  | —  | —  | —  | 1  | 2   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 3        | —                      | —      |
| Pneumonia ...      | —  | —  | —  | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 3   | 6        | —                      | 8      |
| Measles ...        | —  | —  | 4  | 2  | 1  | 1   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 8        | —                      | —      |
| Whooping Cough     | 1  | —  | 4  | 1  | 5  | 7   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 18       | —                      | —      |
| Erysipelas ...     | —  | —  | —  | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —        | —                      | —      |
| Influenza ...      | —  | —  | —  | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —        | —                      | —      |
| Diphtheria ...     | —  | —  | —  | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —        | —                      | —      |
| Polio myelitis ... | —  | —  | —  | —  | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —        | —                      | —      |
| TOTALS ...         | 1  | —  | 8  | 3  | 7  | 10  | —   | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 3   | 35       | —                      | 8      |

TABLE No. 7.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1949.

| <i>Age<br/>Periods</i> | NEW CASES.          |                |                         |                | DEATHS.             |                |                        |                |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
|                        | <i>Respiratory.</i> |                | <i>Non-respiratory.</i> |                | <i>Respiratory.</i> |                | <i>Non-respiratory</i> |                |
|                        | <i>Male.</i>        | <i>Female.</i> | <i>Male.</i>            | <i>Female.</i> | <i>Male.</i>        | <i>Female.</i> | <i>Male.</i>           | <i>Female.</i> |
| — 1                    | —                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| — 5                    | —                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| —15                    | —                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | 1              | —                      | —              |
| —25                    | —                   | 1              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| —35                    | 2                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| —45                    | 1                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| —55                    | —                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| —65                    | 1                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| 65+                    | —                   | —              | —                       | —              | —                   | —              | —                      | —              |
| TOTALS                 | 4                   | 1              | —                       | —              | —                   | 1              | —                      | —              |





